



Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development
900 N. Portland Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - #TA-07-2016

DATE: November 22, 2016

RE: Regional Planning Guidance and Milestones

PURPOSE: This Technical Assistance memo is to serve as a recap of the letter sent out from the chairs of the Workforce System Oversight Committee dated July 1, 2016 outlining milestones that need to be accomplished before a Regional Plan can be implemented.

MESSAGE: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) represents a renewed commitment to workforce development with an eye to the future through innovation and support for individual and national economic growth. It is aimed at increasing opportunities, particularly for those facing barriers to employment, and invests in the important connection between education and career preparation. It looks to the prosperity of workers and employers and focuses on the economic growth of communities, regions, and states to enhance our global competitiveness as a country.

This document, created by the subcommittee of stakeholders in creating the new system "Oklahoma Works," is to share the projected milestones that should be met before a regional plan to build your workforce and enhance your regional economy, can be implemented. *Guidance from the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development will be forthcoming for all milestones within 30 days in advance of the milestone date.*

Regional Planning Guidance

Region Guidelines

In order for a state to receive Title I monies under WIOA, and as part of the process for developing the state plan, a state shall identify regions consistent with:

- State labor market areas;
- Regional economic development areas; and,
- Whether the area will have sufficient federal/nonfederal funds and appropriate education and training providers, including institutions of higher education and career and technical education schools to effectively administer activities for this law.

Regions shall be composed of:

- One local area that is aligned with the region
- Two or more local areas that are collectively aligned with the region



- Interstate areas contained within two or more states and consist of labor market areas, economic development areas, or other appropriate contiguous sub-areas of those states.

Oklahoma Considered

Information considered to develop regions included:

- Labor Market Data
- Input from Nine Public Meetings
- Active State Plan - WIA
- New State Plan - WIOA
- Commerce Economic Development Areas
- Key Economic Network Meeting Input
- Regional Assets
- Postsecondary Education Assets
- Health Care Authority Regions
- Unemployment Maps
- County Population
- Commuting Patterns
- Media Market Areas
- Current Funding

Implementation Milestones

Milestone 1

- September 1, 2016
- Regional Planning Agreements
- Includes Roles and Responsibilities

Considerations for Milestone 1: The Local Elected Officials (LEOs) for local workforce development areas/regional planning areas are required to enter into an agreement to establish a unified workforce.

Milestone 2

- December 1, 2016
- Self-Assessment and SWOT Analysis

Milestone 3

- February 1, 2017
- Establish Administrative Cost Agreements

Milestone 4

- March 1, 2017
- Develop Sector Strategies Framework

Milestone 5

- April 1, 2017
- Collectively negotiate and establish regional agreements or MOU, necessary to:
 - Establish local levels of performance and;
 - Establish performance accountability measures.

May & June 2017 Planning Regions Presentations

Regions will give presentations to Governor's Council Workforce System Oversight Committee and System Oversight Sub-Committee to present their new plans.

Implement

- July 1, 2017

If you have questions regarding this information, contact Workforce System Coordinator staff at the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development. Contact information can be found at <http://oklahomaworks.gov/about/>.